

CONFIDENTIAL

(Not Classified Do-
less Data Entered)

JL ARY OF INFORMATION (SS 300-320-10)		DATE 14 Sept 61
PREPARING OFFICE Central Registry, 66th Intelligence Corps Group, APO 154, US Forces		
SUBJECT PROEBSTING, Helmut DOB: Unknown POB: Unknown	CODE FOR USE IN INDIVIDUAL PARAGRAPH EVALUATION OF SOURCE: COMPLETELY RELIABLE A USUALLY RELIABLE B FAIRLY RELIABLE C NOT USUALLY RELIABLE D UNRELIABLE E RELIABILITY UNKNOWN F OF INFORMATION: CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES . . . 1 PROBABLY TRUE 2 POSSIBLY TRUE 3 DOUBTFULLY TRUE 4 IMPROBABLE 5 TRUTH CANNOT BE JUDGED . . . 6	
SUMMARY OF INFORMATION <p>(C) Information on file at this headquarters indicates that one Helmut Proebsting, aka Schweizer, born at LEIPZIG, former Chief of Section JB, SD, Holland, not further identified, was imprisoned at Blauw Kapel (naa), a British and Dutch installation after the war (not further clarified). (C-3) Proebsting was allegedly approached by one Max Wessel, born 22 August 1921, at NIJNTOK, NEI, a Dutch interrogator, to work for USSR intelligence. Proebsting supposedly reported the approach to another interrogator, not further identified. (No further details given) (Uneval) During the same period Wessel allegedly made the same offer to one Fnu Felfe, former W officer, imprisoned at Blauw Kapel, not further identified, who allegedly reported the incident to camp authorities. (F-6) Available records disclose no further pertinent information.</p> <p>COMMENT NO. 1. The above information is releasable to the BMD.</p> <p>2. Suggest you query Dutch and F.A.O.R. Intelligence regarding Proebsting, Felfe, and Wessel.</p> <p>3. FOR DAD ONLY: The information concerning Proebsting and Wessel came from Dutch authorities; the information concerning Felfe and Wessel came from Wessel during an interrogation by this group in 1948.</p> <p>DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT DATE 2001 2008</p> <p>FOR COORDINATION WITH <i>US Army</i> <i>CIC</i></p>		
DISTRIBUTION 1 by DAD; 1 by INTC File		

1A FORM 568 (Formerly DA AGO)

Replaces WD AGO Form 568, 1 Jun 47, which may be used.

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less Data Entered)

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100-443886-1

CLASSIFICATION		DATE	
		1948-10-10	
SUBJECT: [REDACTED] IFC 154, K, Forces			
SOURCE:		REFERENCE IN INDIVIDUAL PARAGRAPH (EVALUATION)	
[REDACTED]		OF INFORMATION:	
[REDACTED]		CONFIRMED BY OTHER SOURCES A	
[REDACTED]		PROBABLY TRUE B	
[REDACTED]		POSSIBLY TRUE C	
[REDACTED]		DOUBTFULLY TRUE D	
[REDACTED]		IMPROBABLE E	
[REDACTED]		TRUTH CANNOT BE JUDGED F	
SUMMARY OF INFORMATION			
<p>Information on file at this headquarters indicates that one Max Wessel, aka Wessel, aka Sellin, aka Gode, aka [REDACTED], born 22 August 1921 at MCH [REDACTED], [REDACTED] East Indies, not positively identified, contacted this organization in [REDACTED] during October 1948. (Wessel) stated that he was an intelligence operative for the Dutch Government, and was offering information of an economic [REDACTED] national, and information pertaining to Nazi and underground activities in Germany. Wessel offered to exchange information with this organization. (F-6)</p> <p>(Wessel) stated that he was a Dutch citizen and had a number of overseas visits to [REDACTED], Germany, France, Switzerland, and Belgium [REDACTED]. (F-6) An examination of available records at that time revealed that Wessel's name appeared on a list of suspected Soviet agents, or Communists contacts, which was issued by the Military Intelligence Division of the U.S. War Department. (F-6) It was reported that Wessel was the son of an active Communist, [REDACTED] Communist courier and [REDACTED] other pro-communist contacts. It was further reported that, shortly after the war, Wessel had worked as an interrogator [REDACTED] camp at BLAW NAPEL near BREUCHT, and while there, had allegedly attempted to recruit two German nationals who were [REDACTED]. The German nationals were identified as one Helmut Proebsting, former head of [REDACTED] Geheimdienst (SD) in Holland, not further identified, and one (Inu) Peife, former SD man, not further identified. Unavailable checks with Dutch authorities revealed that Wessel had no connection with that government since his utilization as an interrogator at BLAW NAPEL from March 1945 to September 1946. On the basis of the above information, Wessel was detained and interrogated by this organization in November 1948. (F-6) Under interrogation, Wessel flatly denied any connection with the Soviets or other Communists. When confronted with his alleged attempted recruitment of Proebsting and Peife, for Soviet intelligence, Wessel gave the following account: BLAW NAPEL was a Dutch Interrogation Center, where former Abwehr and other German Intelligence Service (GIS) personnel were debriefed. Proebsting, a German official in Holland during the war, was interned by the Dutch at the end of the war and assigned to BLAW NAPEL for interrogation purposes. Wessel stated that Proebsting was interrogated by an interrogator who used the interrogation room right next to the one used by Wessel. As a result, Wessel frequently spoke to Proebsting, and learned that Proebsting originally came from LEIPZIG/Thuringia. Wessel stated in a sarcastic tone, "Why don't you now go back to LEIPZIG and do what you did before." Wessel stated that he at no time attempted to cooperate for a Soviet, Dutch, or other intelligence agency, and that he made any statements cited above, one quoted above, which might be construed as such an offer. Wessel described Proebsting as approximately</p>			

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1. Name: (U)
2. Birth: (U)
3. Death: (U)

Wessel, 17" in height, dark brown hair, with a pronounced
dark complexion. Wessel saw the last saw Proebsting when the latter
was transferred from BLAUW KAPEL to an internment camp in DUINDORP. Wessel further
stated that he had subsequently heard nowhere or other that Proebsting had escaped.
Felfe was also interned for interrogatory purposes as a GIS man at BLAUW KAPEL.
Wessel admitted that he saw Felfe and spoke to him occasionally. Wessel asserted,
however, that at BLAUW KAPEL, he did not make any statement that could be con-
sidered a recruitment attempt or a report for any intelligence agency. Wessel stated
further, however, that on 29 October 1942, while he was in BONN, he met Felfe on the
street. They recognized each other, went to a cafe and talked about old times at
school. Felfe stated that he was a student at BONN. He further mentioned
that he lived on "Weinberg" but that he could not visit him since his residence
could not be reached by car. Felfe stated that he could not get back into the
camp and that he was therefore working on the Economics Publication on a part-
time basis. Wessel thereupon asked Felfe if he would like to write "Lage-Berichte"
about the resistance in the camp. Wessel claimed he did not mention
Felfe to the German government and that he was not to be delivered. Felfe then asked if
Wessel would like him to write an official report for such reports. Wessel stated
that he was then evasive, and consequently Felfe stated he was not interested.
Felfe was alleged to have further told Wessel that he had become a Communist, and
Wessel claimed further that Felfe showed him a KPD membership card. Felfe was
reported as approximately 30 years old, 175" tall, normal build, sharp features,
dark hair. (P-8) Wessel was returned to the Netherlands in February 1949. No
connection between Proebsting and Felfe is indicated. Suggest you contact Inter-
Agency for additional information. This disclose no further pertinent infor-
mation.

1. Name: Above information releasable to the GAO.

2. Name: (U) Information was received from the Dutch authorities in 1948, to the
effect that Wessel was the son of an active Communist, was considered a "Salon
Communist" (sic), made regular fortnightly trips as a communist courier, had attempted
to recruit Proebsting and Felfe as Soviet agents at BLAUW KAPEL, had delivered Dutch
documents by plane to the Russians, and maintained other pro-Communist contacts in
AMSTERDAM. According to the Dutch files, Wessel had attempted to recruit both
Proebsting and Felfe at BLAUW KAPEL. It was indicated that Proebsting had reported
nothing to his interrogator, however, no further mention is made of Felfe. Dutch
authorities further advised that while Wessel was in their employ at BLAUW KAPEL, he
was ordered to "work for the Russians." The Dutch also claimed that Wessel had
a "pet service" complex (not further defined). (Unvaluated) Records contain no
additional information regarding Proebsting or Felfe, however, more detailed infor-
mation regarding Wessel is available if desired.

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